POTATOES: FRESH MARKET, Overhead Irrigated
Kentucky Estimated per Acre Costs and Returns for 2022
Large Scale (5 or more acres trickle irrigated)*
NOT TO BE CONSIDERED CROPPING RECOMMENDATIONS OR PROFITABILITY PROJECTIONS. FOR COMPARISON AND PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY.

CENTER FOR CROP DIVERSIFICATION

	Quantity	Unit	$/Unit	Total				
GROSS RETURNS								
Potatoes	275	cwt	$ 15.00	$4,125.00	a,b	**Wash/Pack**	**5.5**	**cwt/hr**
						Grade/Bag	**13.75**	**cwt/hr**
VARIABLE COSTS						**Your Numbers**		
Production								
Lime	0.5	ton	$ 20.00	$ 10.00				
Fertilizer: Bulk Spread	10	cwt	$ 50.00	$ 500.00				
Sidedressing	150	lbs	$ 0.65	$ 97.50				
Seed	15	cwt	$ 22.00	$ 330.00				
Seed Treatment/Cutting	15	cwt	$ 4.00	$ 60.00				
Herbicides	1	acre	$ 28.30	$ 28.30	d			
Insecticides	1	acre	$ 109.69	$ 109.69	d			
Fungicides	1	acre	$ 69.39	$ 69.39	d			
Irrigation	8	hrs	$ 12.00	$ 96.00	c			
Machinery Variable Costs	1	acre	$ 71.96	$ 71.96	e			
Total Preharvest Variable Costs				**$1,372.84**				
HARVESTING AND MARKETING								
Variable Machine Costs	1	acre	41.976	$ 41.98	e			
Bags	1,000	bags	$ 0.16	$ 160.00				
Hired Labor: Wash/Pack	50	hrs	$ 16.50	$ 825.00				
Washer/Grader/Bagger	1	acre	$150.00	$ 150.00				
Grading and Bagging	20	hrs	$ 16.50	$ 330.00				
Marketing Costs (10% of Gross)	10.0%	gross		$ 412.50				
Total Harvesting and Marketing Cost				**$1,919.48**				
Interest on Variable Costs				$ 69.98				
TOTAL VARIABLE COST				**$3,362.29**				
RETURN ABOVE VARIABLE COSTS				**$ 762.71**				
FIXED COSTS								
Machinery and Equipment				$ 161.74				
Depreciation on Irrigation System				$ 125.00	c			
Depreciation on Bagging Equipment				$ 150.00				
Taxes on Land				$ 5.00				
Insurance				$ 41.25				
TOTAL FIXED COSTS				**$ 482.99**				
TOTAL EXPENSES				**$3,845.28**				
RETURN TO OPERATOR LABOR, LAND, CAPITAL, & MGT.				$ 279.72				
Operator and Unpaid Family Labor	10	hrs.	$ 16.50	$ 165.00				
RETURN TO LAND, CAPITAL, AND MANAGEMENT				**$ 114.72**				

a Yields based on past UK variety trials and grower yield estimates.
b Price based on terminal market price trends in Atlanta, 2022, and Ky. produce auctions.
c UK estimate for overhead irrigation.
d Pesticide costs based on recommended applications of various products using 2022 product costs.
e Machinery cost calculator updated for vegetable production in 2022.
* Farm has 5 or more acres total in trickle-irrigated crops